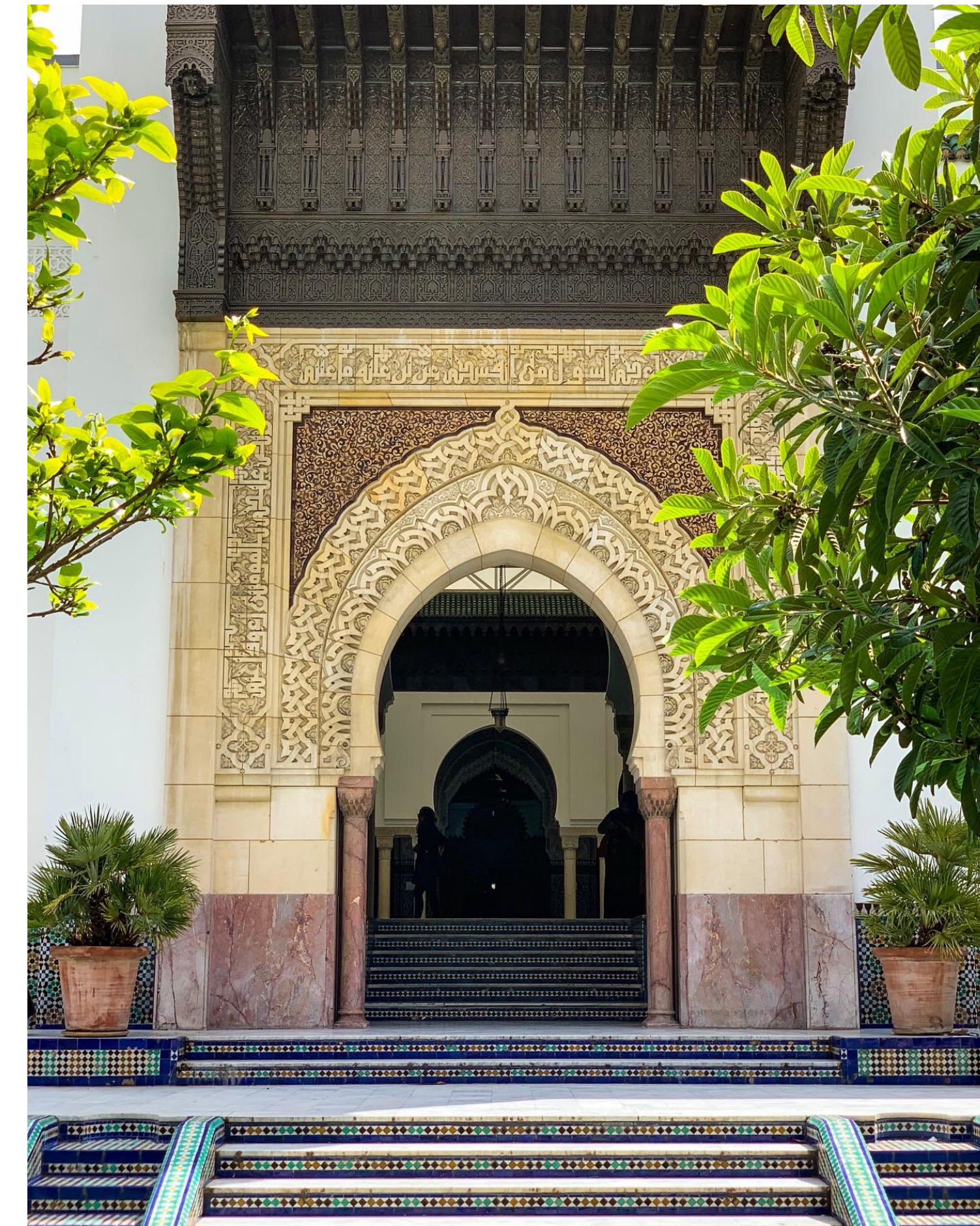




Between France and Morocco: Diversity in the Francophone World

Name: Roaya Higazi.1
Education Abroad
STEP Faculty Mentor: Ish Gulati
Major: City and Regional Planning

My STEP signature project is the “Between France and Morocco: Diversity in the Francophone World” education abroad program offered by the College of Arts and Science and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion. This trip studies the effects of colonialism, immigration, and slavery in the Francophone World, and the ways in which it impacts the ability to embrace diversity today.



I was fascinated by the opportunity to study immigration and race, diversity, and inclusion outside of the context of the U.S. Many of the social and political issues we see in our communities today are also apparent in France and Morocco. It was inspiring to see the solidarity and activism across communities experiencing similar injustices.



One of my favorite moments of this experience was meeting & staying with my loving host mom, Marie-Hélène, in Aix-en-Provence, France. During my time with her, I learned so much about French culture, education, foods, and lifestyle. My roommates and I had a family dinner with our host family every night, where we connected over stories, struggles, and aspirations. Our host mom created a space for us to learn about her life, learn more about ourselves, and truly gave us a home away from home.



For further information and to discuss the program, please contact Ms. Jackie Lipscomb (lipscomb.3@osu.edu), Office of Diversity and Inclusion



We traveled to three cities in France (Paris, Aix-en-Provence, and Marseille) and four cities in Morocco (Marrakech, Rabat, Fez, Casablanca) and stayed in hotels and with host families.



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